

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA PRIORITY

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FOLLOWING REPEAT JAKARTA 6243 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ISLAMBAD
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UNCLAS JAKARTA 6243

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, PFOR, ID, IN

SUBJ: INDONESIAN OFFICIAL AND PRESS REACTION TO
INDIAN NUCLEAR TEST

1. IN BRIEF COMMENT TO PRESS MAY 20 ON INDIA'S FIRST
NUCLEAR EXPLOSION, FOREIGN DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID
INDONESIA REGRETS TEST NOTWITHSTANDING INDIA'S ASSURANCE
THAT IT WAS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES.

2. IN ANSWER TO REPORTER'S QUESTION, SPOKESMAN SAID IT
IS WELL KNOWN THAT INDONESIA OPPOSES ALL NUCLEAR TESTING
ANYWHERE AND IRRESPECTIVE OF COUNTRY INVOLVED.

3. EDITORIAL REACTION TO INDIAN NUCLEAR EXPLOSION
MIXED. JAKARTA'S LEADING DAILY, CATHOLIC-OWNED
KOMPAS, SHARPLY CRITICIZES DIVERSION OF INDIA'S SCARCE
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RESOURCES FOR NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT IN FACE OF SERIOUS INTERNAL

PROBLEMS, EXPRESSES DOUBT ABOUT INDIA'S PEACEFUL INTENT,
AND NOTES IRONY OF "NON-VIOLENT" INDIA JOINT NUCLEAR
CLUB. "WE DO NOT SHARE INDIA'S FEELINGS OF PRIDE,"
EDITORIAL CONCLUDES. EDITORIAL IN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE
JAKARTA TIMES OBSERVES UNSETTLING EFFECT OF INDIAN
NUCLEAR BLAST ON OTHER COUNTRIES AND CONCLUDES IT HAS
"MORE OR LESS UPSET BALANCE OF POWER IN SUBCONTINENT
AND THROUGHOUT ASIA." MILITARY-SPONSORED ANGKATAN
BERSENJATA ACCEPTS INDIA'S CLAIM THAT NUCLEAR
DEVELOPMENT IS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES, AND NOTES
SYMPATHETICALLY THAT EXPLOSION WILL "ENHANCE SPIRIT,
SELF RESPECT AND SELF CONFIDENCE OF INDIAN PEOPLE"
DURING TIME OF INTERNAL CRISIS.
NEWSOM UNQTE RUSH

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